LIMIT

```
LIMIT n
```

Function

The LIMIT statement is used to limit the number of iterations of a processing loop initiated with a FIND, READ, or HISTOGRAM statement.

The limit remains in effect for all subsequent processing loops in the program until it is overridden with another LIMIT statement. The LIMIT statement does not apply to individual statements in which a limit is explicitly specified (for example, FIND (n) ...).

If the limit is reached, processing stops and a message is displayed (see also the session parameter LE in the Natural Reference documentation).

If no LIMIT statement is specified, the default limit defined during Natural installation will be used.

Limit Specification - *n*

The limit **n** must be specified as a numeric constant in the range from 0 to 99999999 (leading zeros are optional). The processing loop is not entered if the limit is set to "0".

Record Counting

To determine whether a processing loop has reached the limit, each record read in the loop is counted against the limit. If the processing loop has reached the limit, the following will apply:

- A record that is rejected because of criteria specified in a FIND or READ statement WHERE clause is `not` counted against the limit.
- A record that is rejected as a result of an ACCEPT/REJECT statement `is` counted against the limit.

Example 1   LIMIT

Example 1

```
    /* EXAMPLE 'LMTEX1': LIMIT
    /*****************************************************
    DEFINE DATA LOCAL
    1 EMPLOY-VIEW VIEW OF EMPLOYEES
      2 PERSONNEL-ID
      2 NAME
      2 CITY
    END-DEFINE
    /*****************************************************
    LIMIT 4
    /*****************************************************
    READ EMPLOY-VIEW BY NAME STARTING FROM 'BAKER'
      DISPLAY NOTITLE NAME PERSONNEL-ID CITY *COUNTER
    END-READ
    /*****************************************************
    END
```

```
        NAME          PERSONNEL        CITY            CNT
                          ID
   -------------------- --------- -------------------- ---------

   BAKER                20016700  OAK BROOK                    1
   BAKER                30008042  DERBY                        2
   BALBIN               60000110  BARCELONA                    3
   BALL                 30021845  DERBY                        4
```

Example 2

```
    /* EXAMPLE 'LMTEX2': LIMIT
    /****************************************************
    DEFINE DATA LOCAL
    1 EMPLOY-VIEW VIEW OF EMPLOYEES
      2 NAME
    END-DEFINE
    /****************************************************
    LIMIT 3
    /****************************************************
    FIND EMPLOY-VIEW WITH NAME > 'A'
      READ EMPLOY-VIEW BY NAME STARTING FROM 'BAKER'
        DISPLAY NOTITLE 'CNT(0100)' *COUNTER(0100)
                        'CNT(0110)' *COUNTER(0110)
      END-READ
    END-FIND
    /****************************************************
    END
```

```
CNT(0100) CNT(0110)
  --------- ---------

        1         1
        1         2
        1         3
        2         1
        2         2
        2         3
        3         1
        3         2
        3         3
```